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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

9 March 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento—106 Arrests Sought in June Capitol Protests

(U) California authorities urged prosecutors to charge 106 people over violence that erupted during a rally by self-described white nationalists at the state Capitol building last year. The eight month investigation by the California Highway Patrol is a result of the fighting that broke out in June when about 30 members of the Traditionalist Worker Party were confronted by more than 300 counterprotesters. The CHP is seeking 68 felony charges and 514 misdemeanors against 106 individuals for activities ranging from unlawful assembly to assault with a deadly weapon. Members of the counterprotest group were also involved in the incident in early February that prevented an appearance by political provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos at the University of California, Berkeley.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, ABC

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia—CIA Contractor Likely Source of WikiLeaks Release

(U) Washington – Contractors likely breached security and handed over documents describing the Central Intelligence Agency's use of hacking tools to anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks, U.S. intelligence and law enforcement officials said on Wednesday. According to officials, intelligence agencies have been aware of the breach since the end of last year which culminated in the release of thousands of pages of information by WikiLeaks on Tuesday. Both U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives intelligence committees have either opened or are expected to open inquiries into the CIA breach, as well as the CIA and the FBI.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, Reuters

(U) District of Columbia—Russia Has Deployed Missile Barred By Treaty

(U) Washington – A senior American general told Congress on Wednesday that Russia has deployed a prohibited cruise missile, the first public confirmation by the United States that the Kremlin had fielded the weapon in violation of a landmark arms control agreement. The agreement was signed by President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in 1987 and is commonly referred to as the I.N.F. treaty. The missile is believed to have been moved in December from a test site in southern Russia to an undisclosed operational base, Gen. Paul Selva reported to the House Armed Services Committee. The Pentagon is considering steps the United States and its allies could take to pressure the Russians to comply, but had not yet determined what leverage points might be effective or how the US should respond, according to Gen. Selva.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, NY Times

(U) District of Columbia—FCC Says it will Investigate AT&T Wireless 911 Outage

(U) Washington – The Federal Communications Commission said Wednesday night it will investigate "the root cause" of an outage that prevented AT&T wireless customers in several states from connecting to 911. AT&T confirmed the outage at 9:49 p.m. ET, tweeting, "Aware of issue affecting some calls to 911 for wireless customers. Working to resolve ASAP. We apologize to those affected." AT&T's tweet

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came after law enforcement agencies in several states, including Florida, Maryland, Texas, Tennessee, Alabama, Ohio, Colorado, Virginia, Illinois, and the District of Columbia informed residents about the outage, and suggested other ways to contact emergency services.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, ABC

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) South Sudan—Country Likely Experiencing Ethnic Cleansing

(U) Juba – A new United Nations report describes South Sudan as nearing a possible genocide and ethnic cleansing as famine and other crises arise. The report describes deliberate starvation, bombardment of civilians, and the use of hate speech by top government leaders, including President Salva Kiir. Ethnic violence has arisen against members of the Shiluk community in the Upper Nile region with community members being forced from their homes and the town of Wau Shiluk being repeatedly shelled. Another minority called the Nuer is also being targeted by the Dinka majority. Government officials have denied all claims.

SOURCE: 7 March 2017, Associated Press

(U) Spain—Police Uncover ETA Explosives Stash

(U) Madrid – Police have found a large stash of explosives in northern Spain which they suspect belong to the Basque separatist group ETA, the interior ministry said Wednesday. Seven drums of explosives were found in the town of Irun on the border with France, the ministry said in a statement. The deposit has not been active recently and officials have cordoned off the area while explosive analysts investigate the material. Officials could not rule out the presence of more explosives in the area. ETA is classified as a terrorist organization whose goal has been a Basque homeland since the early 1960s. They have been blamed for more than 800 deaths in the northern region of Spain and the southwestern region of France.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, AFP

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) District of Columbia—Border Patrol May Loosen Hiring Requirement

(U) Washington – The Customs and Border Patrol agency is considering exempting many veterans and law enforcement officers from a hiring requirement to take a lie-detector test under a proposal to satisfy President Donald Trump's order to add 5,000 agents, according to a memo released by the agents' union. About two-thirds of job applicants fail CBP's polygraph, more than double the average rate of law enforcement agencies that provided data under open-records requests, according to an Associated Press report. Any waiver of the lie-detector mandate may require congressional approval due to a 2010 law that introduced the requirement to root out corruption and misconduct.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, San Diego Union Tribune

(U) District of Columbia—Homeland Security Notes Sharp Drop in Illegal Crossings

(U) Washington – The number of illegal crossings at the Southwest border is reported to have dropped since January 20, according to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The number of apprehensions fell roughly 40 percent from January to February, according to statistics released on Wednesday. According to US Customs and Border Patrol there is usually a 10 to 20 percent increase from January to February. The drop is being attributed to the president's executive order on immigration announced on January 25.

SOURCE: 8 March 2017, Texas Tribune

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